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Vol. 117, No. 10

March 4 - 10, 2004

Funding OK'd for new senior center building

The Official Newspaper Of The City Of Romulus

Ashley Lawrence Staff Writer

A new senior center is on the way to Romulus.

Romulus City Council members approved the reprogramming of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from 2001 and 2003 to begin preparing plans for the new center Monday

With the addition of the new building, the seniors will have much more space.

Maria Lambert

night.

Until February, there was a question of whether there would be a new center or if the city

would remodel the current building located on Bibbins, according to Maria Lambert, director of community development.

"At the special study session we conducted in early February, five members of city council and residents determined that they would prefer to see a new building," said Lambert. "We think that it is a great idea. It is something that has been talked about for a long time."

Romulus

The \$165,000 in CDBG funds to be used to prepare the preliminary plans was reprogrammed, because the projects the funds were originally allocated for have since become ineligible.

The current building, which houses both the Romulus Recreation Department, as well as the Romulus Senior Center, is approximately 13,000 square feet,

See Center, page 3



Field trip

Romulus Mayor Alan Lambert, City Treasurer Pam Kersey, and representatives from other departments provided a question and answer session about city government for the Halecreek kindergarten students Feb. 25th at Romulus City Hall. The students took a field trip to city hall to meet Lambert and other administrative personnel. Representatives from the police department, fire department, animal control, budget and finance, assessor, treasurer and cable TV departments spoke with the children. The students received treat bags while on their visit to city hall. Pictured here with Lambert, the students take a break in the mayor's office. Lambert said his "open door" policy extends to everyone who lives in Romulus, regardless of age

Homeland security remains a priority

Ashley Lawrence Staff Writer

Homeland security has become a major issue of concern for many cities within the United States since Sept. 11, 2001 and Romulus is taking no chances when it comes to the safety of citizens.

Emergency Management Coordinator Margaret LeDuc will apply for two separate Homeland Security grants from the federal government. "We want to make sure that Romulus emergency personnel are ready for any event that may take place within the city," said LeDuc. "It is this reason that we are applying for these grants."

The first grant is for the addition of a solution area planner position within the city in the amount of \$25,000.

"This is to allow the City of Romulus to identify someone that would help the city determine its needs in this area," she said. "The planner would research and provide data to support the city's Homeland Security efforts through the systematic planning, evaluation and analysis of program elements in the areas of equipment acquisition, training, exercising and planning as identified in the city's Homeland Security Assessment and Strategy."

This planner would prioritize what types of equipment Romulus requires to be prepared and then help implement a strategy of preparedness.

The second grant is a Homeland Security Training Grant, she said.

The State of Michigan has allocated \$18,183 to Romulus for this grant. The money is to be used for training for the public safety departments.

See Security, page 3

City fire department to replace 2 aging engines

The Romulus City Council approved the replacement of two fire engines for the Romulus Fire Department last week in the amount of \$993,063.

"We have definitely gotten use out of the two engines that are going to be replaced," said David Allison, chief of the Romulus Fire Department. "One of them was purchased in 1978 and the other in 1984, so it has been awhile."

Allison said that on average fire engines have a life of about 20 years, but even that may change with the growth of Romulus.

"A long time ago, when I had first joined the department, we

Staff Writer year and for that number that sets it apart from the rest, in the road." replacing a engine every 20 years is fine," he said. "But now we have about 2,500 calls a year and obviously that is more wear and tear on the engines, so we will have to replace them about every 15 years now."

The two new fire trucks will be manufactured by Halt Fire Pierce Manufacturing, a leader in the industry. The company also built the other three fire engines currently in the fleet, according to Allison.

"The Pierce model is like a Crown Victoria of fire trucks," said Allison. "As opposed to the others that we looked at, which would be compared Volkswagen bugs."

There are many different

said Allison.

"We took many things into consideration when we were looking at everything," he said. "The Pierce just had some safety features we really liked."

Safety features such as side roll impact protection, which helps protect fire fighters on the truck in the event of a crash.

"If the truck is hit, the side roll impact protection will tighten the safety belts of the officers and allow them to hit lower so that they do not become projectiles out of the truck," said Allison. "The independent front suspension on these trucks is also a plus because it increases the brake life, as opposed to a straight

Ashley Lawrence went on about 250 calls each things about the Pierce model axle which hits a lot of bumps when on a call since the panel

Another plus of the Pierce model is the location of the pump control panels.

"On most fire trucks the pump control panels are located on the side, but this is a safety concern for fighters who, let's say, are called out to a scene on a freeway. In order to utilize the panel the fire fighter is in a dangerous place being so close to passing cars," said Allison. "But in the Pierce model the pump control panel is a top mount. It is literally in the middle of the vehicle, so the fire fighter has to step up onto a platform to get to it and is out of the way."

Allison said that this also helps the view of the fire fighter

is in the middle of the truck, the fire fighter has a view of the situation from both sides of it, which can be helpful, added Allison.

Allison also said that with the purchase of these two trucks, the department is moving into the technology of the 21st century.

"These new trucks will have the capability of using a foam application mixed with water that has been induced with air to put out some fires," said Allison. "It can save on water, but at the same time be just as effective and not cause as much damage in putting out fires."

The department is expecting delivery of the trucks in about 10 months.

'Night of Blues' to benefit seniors

Scott Spielman Editor

A night of good food and good blues is in store for anyone that wants to help out The Senior Alliance, an organization that provides services for seniors throughout southeastern Michigan.

The organization is planning the second annual Night of Blues fundraiser, according to Bill Campbell, director of Marketing and Resource Development for TSA.

The event will begin at 7 p.m. on March 26 at the V.F.W. Hall at 1055 S. Wayne Road in Westland, he said.

TC's Katz with King Tombo, a band long popular in the Wayne and Westland communities, will highlight the event.

Campbell said the event will benefit seniors, but he's hoping for a younger crowd to come out and enjoy the music.

"We want to reach out to people who are beginning to care for their folks," he said, "so when they get to the point that they're in that situation, it's not a total panic. We get those kinds of calls every day."

TSA first got involved with the band when they planned a similar event last year, according to Campbell. Tim Koscher, who plays drums with the band, works for Mike Sloan, who owns the Wayne building where TSA is headquartered. One night, Campbell said he was working late and heard the band rehearsing. A quick jog up the hall got the ball rolling, he said.

Koscher said it was a natural fit.

"They were in the building anyway, and I knew what their function was," he said.

More to the point, a couple of the band members were at a point where they had to start to help provide for their parents.

Koscher said the band has a history of performing in community service projects. They play the local nightclub scene, and have helped out during Jerry Lewis Telethons, and with the Wayne-Westland schools.

"Even when I was in high school, playing, we raised more for poor people in our church," said the Wayne resident.

Koscher is familiar with the role of the breadwinner. When he was drafted into the service for Viet Nam, he quietly sent most of his earnings home to his mother, at least until the army found out. When his commanding officer learned he was the sole-surviving son, they shipped him back to the states, Koscher said.

"I never said anything to anyone," he said. "I just sent my money home to help my mom. I guess I lucked out."

Koscher operated TC's Music Emporium on Michigan Avenue for several years. He closed it about three years ago because of increased competition from stores like The Guitar Center, which opened at about that time in Canton. Since then he's played with regional and national acts from Benny and the Jets to Eddie Rabbit.

Tickets to the March 26 event are \$20 ahead of time or \$25 at the door. It includes appetizers from 7-8 p.m. and pizza at midnight, catered by Annie's Pizza. Campbell said he's hoping for a good turnout, even though he has to rely primarily on word-of-mouth advertising to promote it.

"If we pay a dollar to promote the event, we lose a dollar for a meal," he said. He wants to generate \$5,000, which will pay for 2,500 meals.

Koscher said he was looking forward to the event, and the opportunity to help out the organization.

"They're a good organization," he said. "We want to make people more aware of what they do.

"We're in our second year, now, but soon we'll be in our 15th year at the 15th annual event," he joked. "We'll all be out there in our wheelchairs, playing for The Senior Alliance."

To order tickets for the event call Campbell at (734) 727-2050.

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Plymouth Symphony awards 6 student scholarships

Scott Spielman Editor

The Plymouth Symphony Orchestra honored six students for the musical achievements recently, and a new program could help them honor even more.

Ellen Elliott, coordinator of the Youth Artist Competition, said the symphony was able to present \$1,550 in scholarships thanks to donations from the Plymouth Rotary Foundation, the Optimist Club of Plymouth and an anonymous donor.

Bassoonist David Adams, a 17-year-old high school senior, received a \$500 scholarship as the first place winner in the senior instrument division. Tiffany Lin, a junior at Novi High School, earned a \$500 scholarship for first place in the piano division.

Kurt Tsang, a Canton Township resident and seventh grader at East Middle School, won a \$250 scholarship in the junior combined division for his work on the viola, according to Elliott.

Saxophonist Joseph Girard, flutist Brigid Fitzgerald and clarinet player Rosalyn Schloemer all won \$100 honorable mention scholarships.

The symphony is also launching an education campaign under the title of 'No Kid Without a Koncert,' which will be funded primarily through donations, according to Angela Han, executive director of the symphony.

For \$20, donors can sponsor a student through all five of the youth outreach programs sponsored by the symphony, she said.

The five programs are CLASSical Music Outreach, Koncert for Kids, Instrumentorship, the Celebration Youth Orchestra and the Youth Artist Competition.

CLASSical Music Outreach introduces more than 4,000 third and fourth grade students to musical performers, instruments and music, according to Han. The Koncert for Kids educates more than 2,000 fourth graders,

with a conduct-along concert with Conductor Nan Washburn and the story *Island of the Blue Dolphins*.

The Instrumentorship program pairs aspiring middle aged musicians with symphony musicians and the Celebration Youth Orchestra gives students in

grades three through eight the opportunity to explore their interests and perform with peers.

To make a donation, or for more information call the symphony at (734) 451-2112 or email them at plymouthsymphony @aol.com



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ROMULUS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Automotive students compete in challenge

Ashley Lawrence Staff Writer

"Gentlemen and ladies, start your engines, if you can". These will be the words students from the Michigan Automotive Academy (MAA) participating in the 11th annual Ford/AAA Student Auto Skills National Quality Care Challenge will hear at the state finals April

"We are chomping at the bit to go," said Ted Grekowicz, director of auto service at MAA in Romulus. "We are going to do our best and we will do ourselves

The competition allows students from 34 schools in Michigan to demonstrate their automotive knowledge, skills and aptitude, said Bill Semion of AAA.

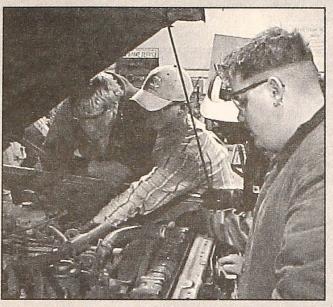
"It gives students an opportunity to show what they have learned and out the skills to the test against others in their field," said Semion.

Students competing in the event first took a written test this week to determine their theoretical knowledge. The top 10 finishing teams will then go on to participate in the state finals. Two teams from MAA will be entered in the competition.

"We are confident that our teams will be in the finals," said Grekowicz. "We have a lot of confidence in our students and their abilities."

At the state finals, the 10 teams with no more than eight members each will be assigned a vehicle with some serious problems. The teams then go to work using their knowledge to diagnose and fix the problems in the allotted time period.

"All of the cars will have the same problems," said Semion. "It can be a number of different things.



Students from the Michigan Automotive Academy in Romulus are preparing to compete in the Ford/AAA Student Auto Skills Quality Care Challenge.

Anything from a burned out tail light to a serious problem with the vehicle computer system."

Once the team believes that they have fixed all of the problems with the vehicle they will have to prove it by starting up the car and driving it to "the point of no return", but Semion said they have to follow all the rules, including safety rules.

"It is important for these students to understand that they can lose the competition for not buckling their safety belts before they drive the car," said Semion. "Since AAA is a co-sponsor of the challenge we want to ensure that these students are no only great auto technicians, but they also recognize the need for safety. I have seen teams lose because they forgot to fasten their

At "the point of no return" students will relinquish the repaired cars to the judges who will inspect the vehicles for the required repairs. The team that has fixed the most problems will win the competition.

Winners from the state finals will then go on to the national challenge at Ford Headquarters in Dearborn on June 29. But the real prizes for the students will be the scholarships that will be offered, said Semion.

"There will be recruiters from colleges and technical schools who will be on hand to offer scholarships to team members who participate in the challenge," Semion said. "This is the main reason the students take part in the event."

Semion also said that bringing the need of auto technicians to the forefront is one of the main reasons Ford and AAA continually sponsor the event.

"We are proud to sponsor this challenge because it brings attention to the need for qualified automotive technicians," said Semion. "There is a shrinking number of mechanics in the automotive field, because a lot of them are retiring or moving on to other careers. The baby boomers who have been at the top of this field for so long are starting to leave, so we have to recruit new men and women to take their place."

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the automotive repair industry is predicted to grow 10 to 20 percent through the year 2010, but according to the U.S. Department of Labor the current shortage of 60,000 service technicians will balloon to 100,000 by next year. Nationwide more than 6,000 students from all 50 states will be competing in the challenge for more than \$5 million in scholarships and prizes.

Center

FROM PAGE 1

said Lambert.

"With the addition of the new building, the seniors will have much more space, as will the recreation department," she said. "Which is our main goal."

The new building, which will house only the senior center, is slated to be about 14,000 square feet, said Lambert. It will also be constructed just behind the current location, which according to Lambert was a key for the project.

"One main thing we liked about the idea of a new building in that location is that we won't

have to move the seniors around a lot," said Lambert. "They will be able to stay in their current building until the new facility is completed and then we will move them right in".

The recreation department will also receive a new home with the completion of the senior center, said Lambert.

"At the same time we are building the new center, we will also be building office space for the recreation department," said Lambert. "It will not be directly connected to the new center, but they will probably share a common entrance."

The new recreation offices will be about 4,000 square feet and will be temporary.

"It is our intention to relocate

the recreation center in the future," she said. "But for the time being they will be housed in this new office space."

The current building will be torn down, said Lambert.

The \$2.1 million senior center will be paid for by pre-commitments for CDBG funds for the next 10 years and the \$1 million price tag for the new recreation offices is still in the process of being decided, said Lambert.

"We have asked the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) to possibly take the recreation offices on as one of their projects, but we are still waiting to see," said Lambert. "We are hoping to see both new buildings open by December 2006, hopefully soon-

Security

FROM PAGE 1

"We have as of yet to determine exactly how this grant money will be spent," said LeDuc. "There are many different possibilities under the guidelines."

The United States Department of Justice has identified the following classes eligible under this grant - emergency response to terrorism, law enforcement response to weapons of mass destruction (WMD), incident response to terrorist bombing, managing civil actions in threat incidents, WMD/radiological/nuclear awareness, defensive operations and unified incident command

"We have to look at what our specific needs are in this city," said LeDuc. "Then we will decide the best way to allocate the grant funds."

Being prepared for anything has been at the top of the list for the last three years, said LeDuc.

"We have done a lot in a short period of time," she said. "We are more prepared than we were on Sept. 11, because we have had more extensive training and we are much more aware."

LeDuc said she also credits the communication level within city departments for the improvement in readiness.

Romulus students fair well at music festival

Staff Writer

Students from Romulus Middle School participated in the annual District 12 Solo and Ensemble Festival with outstanding results, according to Mark Fernandez, Romulus Middle School band director.

"All of the students who participated in the festival made our school and city very proud," said Fernandez. "They all had to overcome obstacles and did very well."

The event, which took place this year at Livonia Franklin High School, brought together 58 schools in the district and allows them to compete in front of expert judges.

"The event is good for students to participate in because it gives them someone other

Ashley Lawrence than their band director to Fernandez. "They compete Fernandez. "That is really important when dealing with music. One person may hear one thing and another may hear something else. It is good to get different opinions."

Thirty-one students from Romulus Middle School competed in the event.

All of the students were required to pick one or two pieces to play that are at least 90 seconds long, but no more than six minutes.

Nearly all of the students entered the event as either a duets or trios, only Henry Windham, a trumpet player, entered as a soloist.

"Another great thing about this event is that the students don't actually compete against other students," said

get feedback from," said against a standard set by the judges."

Each group of musicians performs in front of a judge who has expertise in the instruments being played.

The judge then evaluates the students in five different categories – tone, intonation, interpretation, rhythm and tech-

Students are then graded in each category and the grades averaged together to decide the final rating.

"Out of 17 groups from our school that performed, 11 of them received blue medals (As) and six of them received red medals (Bs)," said Fernandez. "Those are very good results."

After the judging is complete, students get some feedback from the judges, said



Henry Windham and Vaugh Liendo, students at Romulus Middle School, joined 29 of their classmates at the annual District 12 Solo and Ensemble Festival recently. Windham and Liendo received a First Division metal for their trumpet duet, which added to the other 11 division one metals and six division two metals earned by the students as a whole.

Fernandez.

"They will give them suggestions on different things and

ways to improve," he said. "It is good practice for the kids, as well as a confidence booster."

Incumbent state representative to seek reelection

Molly Tippen Staff Writer

Longtime State Rep. Jim A. Plakas (D-Garden City) announced last week that he will seek a third two-year term in the Michigan House of Representatives.

Plakas, 74, represents the 16th House District, which includes all of Garden City, Inkster and portions of both Dearborn Heights and Allen Park.

"I'm running again for three reasons - jobs, job, jobs," Plakas said. "We're losing far too many jobs in this state, and many of the people who are now unemployed will not be able to find work for a while. Take Electrolux, for example. (the Electrolux) factory in Greenville - a town of about 8,000 - is losing 2,700 jobs so the company can go overseas and pay workers \$1.57 an hour. The district I represent is working class we work very hard here. These companies are motivated only by profits - and they expect to be able to come here and sell their merchandise."

Plakas said he will work with other legislators at the state and federal level to encourage fair trade practices, which he believes is crucial to the longtern economic viability of the 16th District if he is elected.

"The current trade laws clearly do not benefit us," he said. "I think the laws, especially NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement), need to be explored."

Other issues on Plakas' to-do list include affordable healthcare and prescription drugs and education funding. But he explained these issues are inexplicably tied to retaining high-paying jobs.

"There are many people who can't afford to buy the prescriptions they need," Plakas said. "And of course, with people losing their jobs, the problem is

Wayne Rotarians schedule art auction

Art auction planned The Wayne Rotary Club will host a fundraising auction presented by Marlin Art at 7 p.m. on March 19. The fundraiser will benefit the Wayne Rotary Foundation, which has distributed more than \$500,000 in scholarships to the Wayne-Westland schools, given more than \$35,000 in library books to the Wayne elementary schools, donated a van to the senior citizen's program, and more.

There will be wine and refreshments served.

Tickets are \$10 and available from any Wayne Rotarian, or by calling (734) 721-0100.

much worse. If we can get the jobs situation in order, the rest of our problems will take care of themselves."

Howard Morris, the stateappointed financial manager of the Inkster-Edison Schools, said Plakas has been a continued advocate for the district. When Morris realized that Gov. Jennifer Granholm's proposed state budget did not include a provision to exempt the district from a \$97 per student funding despite the Jim Plakas did God's work regarding this issue.

Howard Morris

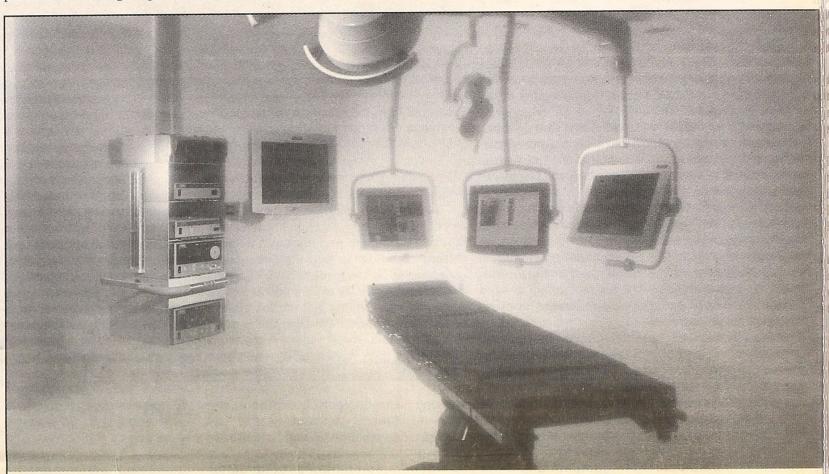
fact that three municipalities under state-imposed financial management were granted exemptions, Plakas tried to spare the district from losing the \$140,000 in per-pupil funding.

"Jim Plakas did God's work regarding this issue," Morris said in December. "When this budget was devised in the State Senate with the governor, the district was overlooked."

Though the budget was approved without changes, Plakas is still working to restore the per pupil as the budget is amended. If successful, the monies will be restored.

The approval of the budget effectively eliminated a \$920 statewide shortfall, Plakas said. "The governor inherited a dreadful budget situation, and she did a tremendous job bringing people together to overcome it," Plakas said.

"We still have a major structural flaw in our budget process and I am committed to helping the governor fix, it."



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City committee sets goals

Scott Spielman Editor

The new Wayne 2020 committee is off and brainstorming.

Formed by the city recently in an effort to springboard from the Cool Cities initiative put forth by Gov. Jennifer Granholm last year, the group got together for the first regular meeting last Wednesday, according to Peter McInerney, community development director for the city.

There the nine-member group introduced themselves, drew numbers to see how long the initial term of each member would be, and who would serve as chair and vice-chair, McInerney said.

Jennifer Stewart, who is also on the city planning commission, was elected chair of the committee and Hal Hultman, who serves on the festival commission committee, will serve as vice chair.

"I think it works out well," said Don Hartford, Wayne city councilman. "I like the mix." Hartford is one of three council liaisons to the group; Councilwoman Donna McEachern and Councilwoman Bev Shackelford were also there.

McInerney said the first meeting was about setting some priorities and prioritizing concepts. The first things the group will most likely concentrate on are efforts to control blight and publicize the city.

"We want to figure out how to tell people about Wayne in a better way," he said. "We have to make sure we're looking our best and we have to figure out ways to tell people about us."

Most of the public relations efforts the city used to provide had to be suspended in recent years due to budget cuts, he said. The city previously made more use of the local cable television channel and sent out newsletters to residents.

Hultman, a building inspector for the City of Novi, said that blight control, a popular topic when the Cool Cities task force got together last year, would still be a priority. That didn't mean, though, that he expected to see a sudden increased crack down on violators or that the commission and the city would operate in a vacuum.

"We definitely want to get input from the businesses as well as the residents," he said. "We understand that it takes manpower to enforce the ordinances, and we don't want an adversarial relationship with businesses.

"Without businesses you don't have a downtown."

He said he envisions a questionnaire sent out to business owners asking them to identify their concerns.

The Wayne 2020 Committee meetings are open to the public, and anyone is welcome to voice their opinions and concerns. They will meet at 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of every month, according to McInerney. The next meeting will take place March 24.

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE CITY OF INKSTER

2004 BOARD OF REVIEW

THE BOARD OF REVIEW OF THE CITY OF INKSTER WILL MEET AT THE BOOKER T. DOZIER RECREATION COMPLEX, 2025 MIDDLEBELT ROAD, ON THE FOLLOWING DAYS FOR THE PURPOSE OF BEARING THE COMPLAINTS OF ALL PERSONS CONSIDERING THEMSELVES AGGRIEVED BY THE ASSESSMENTS MADE AGAINST THEIR PROPERTY.

MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2004

10:00 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M. AND 2:00 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 2004

10:00 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M. AND 3:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.

ADDITIONAL MEETINGS, IF NEEDED, WILL BE HELD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE BOARD OF REVIEW.

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PLEASE CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT (313) 563-4271.

KIMBERLY TURNER INKSTER CITY CLERK

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INKSTER HOUSING COMMISSION 4500 INKSTER ROAD INKSTER, MI 48141

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS, AND PERSONS:

ON OR ABOUT MARCH 18, 2004, THE CITY OF INKSTER WILL REQUEST HUD TO RELEASE FEDERAL FUNDS UNDER THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1974, SECTION 119 OF THE 1974 ACT, SECTION 14 OF THE UNITED STATES HOUSING ACT OF 1937 AS AMENDED, AND SECTION 509 OF THE CRANSTON-GONZALEZ NATIONAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING ACT (NAHA) OF 1990 FOR THE FOLLOWING PROJECT:

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DEMBY TERRACE

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HILLIARD HAMPTON, JR., MAYOR CITY OF INKSTER

Publish: March 4, 2004

Time well spent

Plymouth City Manager Paul Sincock has faced several challenges since he was named to his position several years ago.

Keeping a city moving in a positive direction is an often difficult task in any environment, even in a place like Plymouth.

Those obstacles may pale in comparison, though, when seen next to the task of guiding the city through the current budget crisis, which Sincock and other city leaders will be forced to do during the next few months, and beyond

It's never a pleasant working environment when the real likelihood of cuts in services - which ultimately mean staff - are discussed. That can only be exacerbated in a media-intense town like Plymouth, with two local weekly and twice-weekly papers, and a daily paper branch

As word gets out in these plentiful outlets that the city is trying to trim up to \$1.2 million from the \$6 million budget, employee morale is one of the first things to falter. More and more city employees tend to show up at commission meetings, as job security is questioned.

Sincock took a good first step Monday night with a budget study session designed to fully inform the city commission about the issues they're facing, and why. Because the regular meeting agenda was nonexistent, it gave the commission a chance to sit down and re-visit goals set last year.

It was hardly a succinct presentation, the 60-page power point presentation of all the requirements of a city, an overview of the budget and the consequences of Proposal A and a brief breakdown of how retirements or early retirements could help ease the situation, even if they couldn't eliminate the problem all together.

It was informative, though, and information is what the commission needs in order to make the best, least disruptive decisions for the future of the city.

Normally the commission wouldn't start the budget review process until April, in preparation for approval in June. The slow and steady approach is the better one to take here, though. It will mean more meetings, it will mean more time, but ultimately it will make for better decisions, a more-informed public and hopefully, another challenge Sincock and his crew have met.

An obvious conflict of interest

Attention Inkster Councilman Michael Canty: Move away from the police department.

If ever a statement needed to be made, the time came two weeks ago when Canty, a recently elected councilman, apparently overstepped his role as a member of the Inkster City Council by attempting to manage the police department.

Canty may have simply shown his lack of political experience when he called for the firing of a police lieutenant last month. Unfortunately, he did so in public - using the officer's name - which opened the city up to civil litigation it simply cannot afford.

Canty also told council members that Police Chief Marvin Winkler said City Manager Robert Gordon was derailing his efforts to move officers – mainly the lieutenant in question – into different positions throughout the police department. Winkler has emphatically denied such a conversation took place. Winkler - who was hired eight months ago – was understandably upset about the statements and the fallout, and we don't blame him.

There is a tendency in some municipalities – especially those with high crime rates like the City of Inkster - for elected officials to micromanage some city departments. It may be because they are not sure of their rightful role or limitations. It might be because they feel ultimately responsible for providing public safety in the community.

See Conflict, page 7



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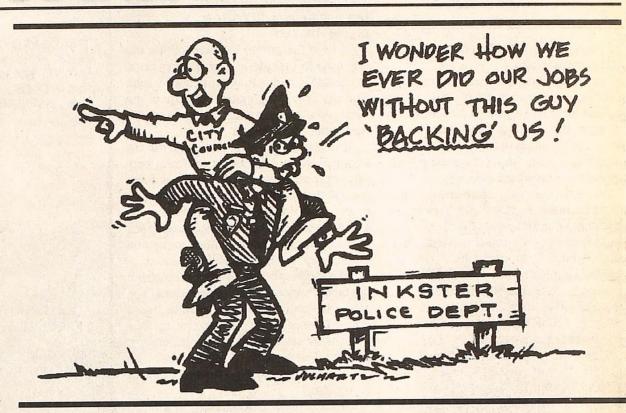
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Just no stopping progress

Like many people throughout the community, I took advantage of the recent winter thaw to get out of the stuffy confines of my house and into my neighborhood.

Our family walks usually have a common destination - Attwood Park, which is at the end of our street. Sunday was no exception. We headed there right away, walking briskly in an attempt to get my son, Henry, to take a nap in his new stroller.

Henry has enjoyed the park ever since we moved into our house about a year ago. We often walked down there last year, and he would proudly tell everyone we passed:

"We're going down to the park and we're going to climb the big hill."

They would smile, hearing such a complete sentence from a then-2-year-old.

Well, I haven't exactly broken the news to the little feller that the hill, one of his favorite attractions at the park, is going away.

I've got to admit, I'm going to

miss the hill, myself. I know it's a good deal for the city - they're going to remove it and install two soccer fields there, along with an additional parking lot to serve the two picnic pavilions, without having to chip in any money. Whenever a municipality can take advantage of \$400,000 in free work, well, that's a good day for

City officials have wanted to get rid of the hill for a while now. It's a big liability issue for them there's no way to stop screaming children from careening down it on their bikes in the warm weather and sleds and snowboards in colder weather.

Even so, I'm going to miss the misshapen hump.

I've got plenty of fond memories of racing Henry up to the top of it so we could sit down and watch the jets line up to land at Metro Airport. I would often coerce loose rocks out of the packed earth and hand them over to him to throw down the crooked ravine that scars the northern slope of the hill.

He would

practice his sound effects as the stones rolled down the slot, get excited if they reached the bottom, disappointed if they rolled to a stop too soon. The distant jets would roar to their landings, the shouts and laughter from the playscape were often the only other sounds on those otherwise idyllic afternoons.

Edge

It's hard to visualize what the park will look like near the end of summer, when the project is complete. I'm sure the fields themselves will be nice, the extra lot appreciated by those who use the pavilions. In time they'll blend in with the fabric of the community and who knows, maybe soccer will even catch on here.

I for one, will always have a soft spot for the hill, though, and the lazy afternoons spent at the

Now, if we could just get someone to chip in for a new fence around the nearby track...

Are you still a prisoner of the past?

"I was wrong."

that? For some it was, "Ah, ah, I can't remember." For others, it was never.

It's fascinating how difficult it is for us to say we're wrong or mistaken. It's equally as fascinating, that we seem also prone to quickly blame others.

That's when those old unhealthy pictures do what they were designed to do-destroy your happiness.

For years, I had difficulty admitting I was wrong. But, for a long time now, I've freely admitted my errors. I say "freely," because that's exactly what happens when I accept responsibility for my actions.

Once, there was a woman I loved very deeply. She said she felt the same toward me. Yet, at times, I'd feel like I was walking on eggs, which is not good in a relationship. I wanted to marry

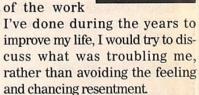
her, however one issue from her something in When's the last time you said past became a wall too high to our relationclimb. Here's the story.

> Beautiful, intelligent, talented, Kim was the answer to my search. However, she told me that as a child her mother was constantly criticizing her, instilling in her fear and the belief that she was worth less than others.

Feeling blamed and punished unjustly for things she didn't do, Kim's answer to survival was to become perfect. In perfection, there can be no criticism, blame or unjust punishment. But, as many come to understand, perfection is unattainable, because it is

In our relationship, when something would trigger those frightened worthless feelings in Kim, the wound would bleed, and when bleeding doesn't stop, the wound cannot heal.

Here's what I mean. There'd be a need on my part to talk about ship. Because



"Because I love you," I'd say to her. "I need to talk about something I feel can make our relationship more intimate and loving."

As I'd begin, I'd see her tense up. When I finished, she would react defensively saying something like "If you'd..." or, "What about your..."

As we know, when we feel criticized the first reaction is defensive. In our defensive mode, we shut out what's being said to us. Next, we shift into anger: "How dare you say that?" which is almost always followed by attack:

See Past, page 7

We can take a lesson from the pros when it comes to fitness

Instead of sitting in a

movie, go to the zoo or

one of our metroparks.

Ernie Harwell **Guest Writer**

There's no question that the overall physical fitness and strength of today's athletes far exceeds that of athletes of past generations.

There's also no question that this has enhanced the quality of the games, reduced injuries and extended playing careers.

The emphasis on physical fitness in professional sports seems to be exactly the opposite of what has been happening on Main Street. What I mean is this: While the enhanced physical-fitness in sports has increased the quality of games and players' careers, the fans just seem to be getting fatter and fatter. There's no quessignificantly hurting the quality of life of a growing number of everyday Americans.

More of us need to start making fitness a priority; and I certainly don't mean that everyone

should start heavy exercise routines. Fitness begins with doing the little things. Instead of sit-

ting in a movie, go to the zoo or one of our metroparks, where you'll be sure to get some exercise. Next time you think about eating out, plan a night at home with a nice light, balanced meal. And as much as the kids love their computers, video games

and get outside in the fresh air and go play with them.!

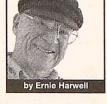
We can improve the quality of our lives by doing the little things we enjoy and getting our hearts pumping at the same time.

And please remember to take care of your health before it's lonngggg gone!

Ernie Harwell, "the voice of the Detroit Tigers" for more than four decades, retired after 54 years behind a major league microphone. Today, at age 86, Ernie's days are filled with serving as a health and fitness advocate for Blue Cross Blue Shield of

tion that deteriorating fitness is and TV, get them to turn it off Michigan, public appearances, writing, traveling and taking long walks with "Miss Lulu," his wife of more than 60 years. His latest book, a collection of his baseball

columns entitled "Life After Baseball," is available in bookstores in April!



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Conflict

FROM PAGE 6

It's possible that Canty only has the best interest of the city at heart, but we don't think that's the case here. We think Canty's comments expose a bias that is just too difficult to ignore and a motivation that's easy to question.

When Canty was campaigning for his seat last year, this newspaper obtained information that would ultimately lead to an investigation into his three-year stint as the deputy director of the Inkster Police Auxiliary Office of Emergency Management (Canty resigned that post in 2001). The investigation led to charges for unlawfully presenting firearms certificates without retaining the required teaching credentials, a four-year felony. He later accepted a no-contest plea under advisement to the charges.

The lieutenant whose abilities Canty questioned has a spotless record and oversees a department that has solved the highest number of murders - about 90 percent - in 20 years. Things seem to be moving along nicely there - you would think all of the council members would be happy with that. But the same lieutenant also oversaw the Canty investigation, which places the department in an awkward situation when it comes to the council-

It's the role of the city council to make policies by which the city is to be governed. Department heads like Winkler are hired to manage their departments on a day-to-day basis. At least 10 sources in the police department have said Canty calls at least once a day. That's unacceptable.

Canty tries to pass himself off to other council members as a police insider, but he has not worked as an auxiliary officer for three years. Some of his claims during the election, namely the extent of his role in the closing of the Melody Theater, have also been questioned by police officers from an investigative unit in which the Inkster Police Department participates.

Given these issues, there are real concerns about whether Canty should even vote on police matters at all, given his conflict with the department.

Canty likely incurred legal costs and personal embarrassment during the investigation. The conflict clearly exists.

ests of the city at heart, he should

their jobs and perform only the oversight he and other council members have been elected to provide.

If he truly has the best interlet the people hired by the city do

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FROM PAGE 6

"Oh yeah, if you would..."

I am convinced that Kim was not hearing a loving request to strengthen our relationship. She was hearing old-picture criticism that told her that she was less than perfect. That was frightening, because it meant unfair blame, unjust punishment, and worse, the possibility of being abandoned. ty today.

degrading issues of her childhood that led you to live today's dreams.

to a very sad and painful parting because Kim was unable to trust me. So deep is the wound, that it stops her from even a willingness to change, thereby always maintaining a "protect thyself at all costs," existence.

Wow, that got kind of heavy. Hopefully, it shows how loss of happiness can be prevented if we step up today with courage and determination to change. Remember, what happened in childhood, and/or the fear of abandonment, has no power today unless you give it the power. Yesterday is not reali-

Sadly, it was her inability to deal with the Dealing with yesterday's demons frees

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POSITIVE

THE SCENE

Audiences react strongly to passionate film

Molly Tippen Staff Writer

What viewers will take away from Mel Gibson's epic The Passion of the Christ is intertwined with what they bring to it.

Christians - who flooded theaters by the busloads on

Ash Wednesday, the opening day for The Passion - are likely to be transfixed by the emotional, violent images they witness. They may find the film personal; they may feel the pangs of sacrifice and brotherly love as the crucifixion reaches the intense, brutal

But no matter what personal beliefs viewers may hold, the twohour long testament to the final 12 hours in the life of Jesus is likely to be a moving experience for all who see

That's because Gibson succeeds where other movies about the title character have failed. He made Jesus flesh and blood. He forces the audience to

look upon things most people would never wish upon another person.

The movie begins with Jesus of Nazareth (Jim Caviezel) in Gethsemane, contemplating his faith after the last supper. He is interrupted in the garden by a darkly menacing, bald, androgynous looking woman (Rosalinda Celentano) with sharp teeth. We know she is Satan because a serpent slithers below her feet. She warns Jesus that something terri(Mattia Sbragia). He is brought to the attention of Roman governor Pontius Pilate (Hristo Naumov Shopov), who immediately has reservations: He does not understand the zeal on the part of Caiaphas and some of his followers to crucify Jesus, but knows

Jesus' ideas of love for all mankind are revolutionary. Therefore, he is a threat to the Jewish priests and the Roman authorities occupying Jewish territory.

A tribunal ensues, and what follows has to be the most relentlessly brutal collection of scenes in film history: Jesus' flesh is torn from his body by cat 'o' nine tails at the hands of thuggish Roman soldiers for about 15 minutes. All the while, soldiers are mocking and tormenting Jesus, although some appear conflicted by what's occurring. A crown of thorns is eventually nailed into the head of Jesus. All of this happens in the presence of Jesus' mother, Mary, and his faithful follower,

Mary Magdalene.

Eventually, Jesus and two other prisoners are forced to bear their own crosses as they are mercilessly beaten. The nails driven through his hands are ago-

nizingly depicted. In the theater, this scene packed the biggest emotional punch - at least one viewer in the theatre made the sign of the cross, and another openly wept.

The controversy of this film during the last year has been whether the film is anti-Semitic. The film does seem to place the blame for Jesus' death more at the feet of Caiaphas. Pilate is portrayed in the film as a leader with a political problem, and history remembers Pilate as a tyrant who thought nothing of crucifying Jews. But other Jews in the film, like Simon, who is not named but helps Jesus bear his cross up the mountain, and Veronica, a young girl who wiped Jesus' face as he struggled, offset this. The film makes clear that Jesus was sent to Earth to die for our sins; we all put him on the cross.

The most touching scenes in the movie are between Jesus and his mother, who desperately tries to catch up with him to help him get up after he has fallen.

Flashback scenes from the Last Supper, the Sermon on the Mount and to Jesus, days as a carpenter provide momentary relief between the violence.

Gibson - who is an ultra-conservative Catholic that rejects the Second Vatican Council liberalization of the church in 1960 - has created, for the first time, the harshness of what made up the Passion. The fact that only Latin and Aramaic are spoken adds to the authenticity of the film.

The script, was written by

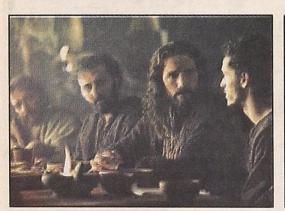
Gibson and Benedict Fitzgerald, is based on the four Gospels. The actors play their roles superbly it's difficult to imagine that Caviezel was not seriously injured during the filming.

Perhaps not entertained, viewers will certainly be transfixed. Each viewer's personal beliefs will affect what they take out of the theater when the film ends.



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Jesus (Jim Caviezel) sits with the apostles at Simon of Cyrene (Jarreth Merz) helps Jesus (Jim Caviezel) carry his cross.

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Mary Magdalene (Monica Bellucci), Mary (Maia Morgenstern) and John (Hristo Jivkov)

NISSAN



ble is about to happen.

Moments later, Roman sol-

diers arrive and arrest Jesus for

blasphemy at the urgency of the

Jewish high priest, Caiaphas



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Northville to host noted parenting author

Meghan Chatham Staff Writer

Jim Fay, founder of the Love and Logic Institute, strives to improve relationships between adults and children by teaching problem-solving skills and personal responsibility to students.

The Northville Public Schools is offering parents a chance to hear Fay speak through a pair of seminars, Parenting with Love and Logic and Children of Affluence, that will be offered Tuesday, March 8 at Northville High School.

According to Karen Waltz, an administrative assistant for the school district, the district has sponsored a presentation by Fay for about 10 years.

"We usually get about 400 people per session," said Waltz.

Fay is the author of several popular books on his parenting techniques. In addition, he has served as a public speaker on that topic for the past 20 years.

"This is the first year...that we are asking for donations," said Waltz. The suggested donation of \$5 per family would be used to help offset the cost of the program.

According to the Love and Logic Institute web site, Fay's message was developed during the course of a 31-year career as a teacher, principal, and school administrator in schools ranging from the inner city to the suburbs.

"I started out as a parent and a teacher

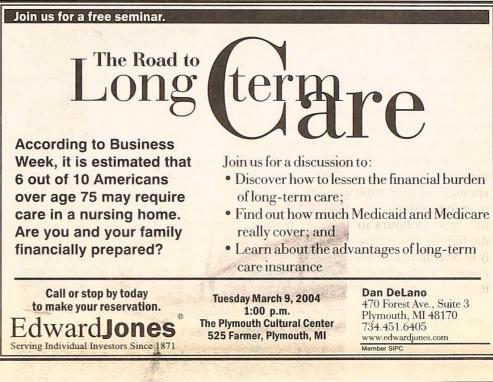
with lots of lecturing, threats, rewards, and punishments—and they didn't work," said Fay on the web site. As a result, Fay said that he began to develop his own system, which he said would teach children responsibility and self-discipline while still letting children know that adults care about them.

The Love and Logic system has been evolving ever since. It has two basic rules. Adults are expected to set firm limits in loving ways without anger, lectures, or threats. In addition, when a child causes a problem, the adult is responsible for lovingly but firmly insisting that the child deal with that problem and the ensuing consequences his-or herself.

The first Fay seminar, Parenting with Love and Logic, will take place from 4:30 until 6 p.m. The lecture is designed to reflect the Love and Logic principles by teaching parents to set firm limits in a loving way, and by using enforceable statements, offering choices within limits, and providing sincere questions and empathy. The second seminar, Children of Affluence, will take place from 7:30 until 9 p.m. This presentation will focus on teaching children to learn from their mistakes, rather than in preventing them from making their own decisions. Northville High School is located at 45700 Six Mile, between Sheldon and Beck roads. No preregistration is required. For further information, contact 248-344-8443.

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PETLAND NOVI In the Twelve Oaks Mall



Plymouth golf and conference center to add 118-room hotel

Scott Spielman Editor

An old Plymouth landmark will be getting a modern update this year.

The former St. John's Seminary, which is now in operation as the St. John's Golf and Conference Center, will add a seven-story hotel to the Five Mile and Sheldon Road Campus, according to Plymouth Township officials.

The township board approved last week the rezoning of the land from single family residential uses to a Technology and Research (TAR) district, according to Township Supervisor Steve Mann. Hotels are allowed as a special use in those districts.

The addition of the hotel was in the plans for the site all along, according to William Pulte, the developer who represented the archdiocese of Detroit. The Catholic Church owns the property, which is run by Hotel Investment Services.

"We think it's a great way to finish off the project," he said.

The 118-room hotel will adjoin the existing structure, according to Pulte. It will be constructed on the eastern side of the building, on some land left vacant for that purpose, he said.

The site has a long history of use with the church. It was formerly a seminary, but reopened in the late 1990s as a conference center that provided a sort of retreat for families. It contains a banquet hall, a chapel, and plenty of rooms, once used by the priests who learned there and converted into rooms for families that stayed several nights at the facility.

Most of those uses were added on through special land use requests, according to Jim Anulewicz, director of public

works for Plymouth Township.

"At the time, some sort of hotel was part of the plans," he said.

Pulte said the goal of providing the hotel was to help erase a deficit under which the facility is currently operating. He said it loses about \$500,000 a year. The hotel will help make the site more attractive to corporate retreats and bolster the other services provided at the facility. Right now, many of the people who attend seminars throughout the course of several days have to find a nearby hotel.

"We lose a lot of business because they have to room somewhere else," Pulte said.

The rezoning was unanimous, but some of the township trustees had some concerns because the zoning stays with the land, not the user. That means that if the church ever decides to sell it, the new developer could put a wider variety of facilities there.

"I would like to see that the use remain as it is," said Mann. "Even though it's private, it does provide some open space and some recreation."

Pulte said there were no plans to change the facility, other than to construct the hotel. And that, he added, would be done in a way to complement the existing structure. He said they would match the color of the brick and the architectural style, and that the hotel would still be 40 feet lower than the tip of the tower there.

"We feel the complex will all go together," Pulte said. "It's our desire to keep it a long time as it is."

Anulewicz said he hoped that would be the case

"We have some jewels out there that, if removed, we probably never would be able to recover," he said.



SPORTS

Tigers conquer Vikings, 65-53, ready for Ypsilanti

Jeff Novak Staff Writer

In the first half

we didn't handle

the pressure as

well as I would

have liked to.

The Belleville Tigers, champions of the Mega Red division, met the Inkster Vikings, winners in the Mega White division, on the hardwood Thursday night in Belleville in the first round of the

Mega Tournament. Although the

Vikings fought valiantly, it was the Tigers that walked away with the victory.

The first half was a close one between the two teams. Belleville led

by three after the first quarter of play, 14-11, but Inkster pulled ahead by one point in the second to head to the locker room with a 30-29 lead at the half.

The Tigers were up by seven points late in the first; but Inkster's Woodell Payne nailed 4of-4 from the free-throw line to make it 14-11, while Belleville 9 when we were down by one,"

missed four from the line to extend their lead.

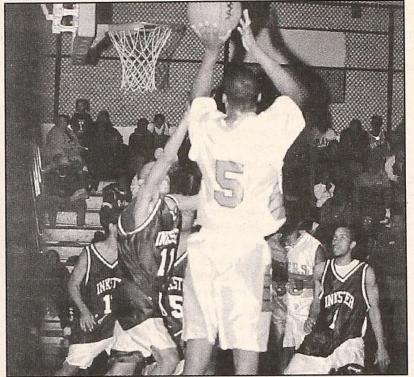
The second period belonged to the Vikings. They outscored the Tigers 18-16 to take the onepoint lead before the half. The Tigers missed several shots from the line, which allowed the Vikings to conquer the quarter.

Belleville came out of the half-

time break a different team and outpaced the Vikings in the third to retake the lead. Tyler Jones hit a three-pointer to open the quarter, which allowed

Belleville to take the lead at 32-30. Leon Freeman hit couple of jumpers and tipped in an Andre Olden shot to extend the lead. The rest of the quarter was a team effort as they out scored Inkster, 17-8, to take an eightpoint lead into the final frame.

"We didn't panic at half time



Matt Miller shoots for two for Belleville against Inkster's Woodell Payne in their meeting on Friday. Belleville walked away with the 65-53 victory.

said Belleville coach Mike Krogel. "We just talked about some of the things we had to correct, especially

handling the pressure Inkster put on us."

"In the first half we didn't han-

dle the pressure as well as I would have liked to," he added. "Our floor spacing wasn't too good and our forwards gave up the ball a little too soon. In the third I thought we ran our offense and didn't let them (Inkster) control the tempo of the game."

Matt Miller opened the fourth quarter with four quick points and Olden hit a free throw for Belleville to take a 51-38 lead early in the quarter. Lamont Parker had six straight points for Inkster late in the final minutes of play that brought them to within seven, 58-51, but the Tigers held the Vikings at bay to take the 65-53 victory.

"I knew it was real difficult to come into this stadium and win," said Inkster coach Gerald Pascal. "I knew it would be difficult but we had a pretty good game plan. We got away from it a little bit in third and that hurt us."

Payne led the Vikings' valiant

See Tigers, page 12

1954 PA 188 Proceedings

Notice of the Visteon Village Street Lighting Special **Assessment Hearing Charter Township of Van Buren** Wayne County, Michigan

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE CHARTER TOWN-SHIP OF VAN BUREN, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN, OWNERS OF LAND WITHIN VISTEON VILLAGE AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Supervisor and Treasurer of the Township has reported to the Township Board and filed in the office of the Township Clerk for public examination a special assessment roll prepared by the Township covering all properties within the Special Assessment District for the Visteon Village Street Lighting Assessment District benefited by the street lighting project. Said assessment roll has been prepared for the purpose of assessing a portion of the costs of the construction of the street lighting and work incidental thereto with the aforesaid Visteon Village Street Lighting Assessment District as more particularly shown on the plans by the DTE Energy Company on file with the Township Clerk at 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, which assessment is in the total of \$12,776.99 / year.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Treasurer has further reported that the assessment against each and every parcel of land within said district is such relative portion of the whole sum levied against all parcels of land in said district as the benefit to such parcel to such parcels bears to the total benefit to all parcels of land in said district.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Township Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Van Buren Township Board Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI on March 16, 2004 for the purpose of reviewing said special assessment roll and hearing any objections thereto. Said roll may be examined at the office of the Township Clerk during regular business hours of regular business days until the time of said hearing and may further be examined at said hearing. Appearance and protest at the hearing held to confirm the special assessment roll is required in order to appeal the amount of the special assessment to the Michigan Tax Tribunal.

An owner of party in interest, or his or her agent, may appear in person at the hearing to protest the special assessment, or shall be permitted to file his or her appearance or protest by letter and his or her personal appearance shall not be required. (The owner or any person having an interest in the real property who protests in person or in writing at the hearing may file a written appeal of the special assessment with the Michigan Tax Tribunal within 30 days after the confirmation of the special assessment roll.)

*In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, accommodations can be made available with advance notice.

Joannie D. Payne Clerk

Publish: March 4, 2004 March 11, 2004

PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF ROMULUS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM, 2004/2005 PROGRAM YEAR

Final Statement

Pursuant to federal guidelines, the Romulus City Council voted on February 23. 2004, to adopt the following projects utilizing Wayne County, Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding. The primary objectives are to assist low to moderate income families directly or provide benefits in areas where 51% of the residents are low to moderate income, such as replacing the urban infrastructure of streets, improve recreational facilities and programs and assist in meeting special needs of the elderly and physically disabled.

2004 FINAL PROJECTS:

ACTIVITY/Location:

FUNDING REQUEST:

Senior Services - Citywide 36515 Bibbins

\$ 35,000.00

Chore/minor home repair services, Transportation, education, Recreation & staffing

Senior Center - New Construction

36515 Bibbins, Romulus, MI 48174

\$2.1 mil Bonded construction of a new, approx. 13,000 sq. ft., senior center behind original bldg. - CDGB funds anticipated to repay bond over a 10 year pre-commitment period. (with an estimated reduced allocation

of 5% annually)

Administration (10%) -TOTAL REQUEST:

\$ 30,600.00 \$306,000.00

\$240,400.00

ALSO INCLUDED.

THE FOLLOWING FUNDS WERE "PROVED FOR RE-PROGRAMMING TO THE BEGINNING COSTS OF THE NEW SENIOR CENTER CONSTRUCTION:

War Co. Contract# 01-24-03L - New Const. - sidewalks

\$83,300.00

(Census Tract 5859 Block group 2 - Extended to 12/31/04)

Wa. Co. Contract# 03-24-03F - Rec. Facility - Satterlee Farm Park \$82,200.00

(Census Tract 5858 Block group 3)

Total \$165,500.00

IN ADDITION, the city anticipates receiving at least \$50,000.00 for housing rehabilitation through repayment of liens/ revolving funds (program income) and will not be applying for additional housing rehabilitation funds.

The above activities will meet HUD objectives by benefiting low and moderate-income families, preserving deteriorating housing stock and enhancing parks and public facilities.

Publish: March 4, 2004

Eagles run over Highland Park, continue in Mega Tournament

Jeff Novak Staff Writer

The Romulus Eagles snatched up a total of 70 rebounds, which is more than the amount of points their opponent scored, when they blew out Highland Park Friday night in the first round of the Mega Tournament.

The rebounding efforts let the Eagles soar over the Highland Park Polar Bears, 81-52.

"That has to be some kind of record," Romulus coach Nate Oats said. "They shoot threes and we knew that's how they play."

The Eagles sat back and waited for the ball to rebound into Ronald Coleman's hands. Coleman led the team with 22 rebounds in just three quarters and he led the team with 17 points, according to Oats. Kyle Wasson added 10 points and five rebounds in the lopsided victory. Jarret Smith was solid with eight points, six rebounds and 5 assists. A.J. Hall was strong, coming off the bench to fill in for

DeMarvelous Carter, who was out with an injury. He scored eight points and recovered eight rebounds.

Kenneth Jordan lead the Polar Bears with 14 points.

Romulus outscored the Bears from the tip off and the game was well in their hands by half time with a 37-15 lead. They let up a

We took a 34-18 lead at the half and they didn't have their top player in. That put them in a big hole and they couldn't come back from it.

little in the second half and only outscored Highland Park 44-35 to carry away with the victory.

The Eagles had another solid game, with similar results, when they defeated Taylor Truman, 7058, on Tuesday, Feb. 24.

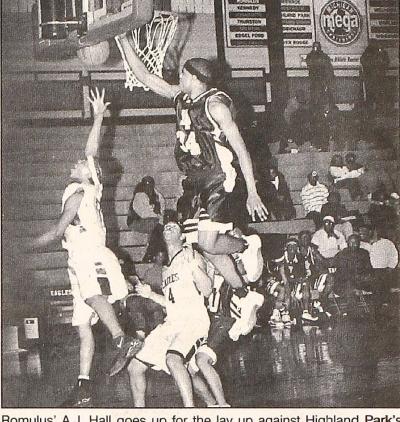
Coleman led in the efforts again with 22 points and 12 rebounds while Carter added 14, which included going 7-9 from the field, according to Oats. He also grabbed 6 rebounds. Smith got into the mix with seven points, eight assists and four steals.

Colvin Byrd led the other side of the court with 11 points. Truman was without their top player John McMurray in the first half and when he came in he only scored two points in the second, according to Oats.

"We took a 34-18 lead at the half and they didn't have their top player in," he said. "That put them in a big hole and they couldn't come back from it."

The Eagles let up again in the second half and allowed Taylor 40 points to their 36 but managed to hang on for the 70-58 triumph.

Romulus hosted Willow Run in the second round of the Mega Tournament but the results were unavailable for publication. They



Romulus' A.J. Hall goes up for the lay up against Highland Park's Kenneth Jordan. The Eagles triumphed, 81-52.

had to play the game without two of their starting players. Anre Partee had to miss the game due to personal reasons and Carter was still nursing a strained calf muscle.

"Hopefully other kids will pick it up," Oats said. "Hall has played well and Wasson could start because he has been doing well. We should be all right."

Romulus split their games against Willow Run in the regular season, losing the second meeting by five points on the road.

Tigers

FROM PAGE 10

effort on offense with 20 points. Matt Miller finished with 16 points for Belleville. Olden had his best overall game of the season, according to Krogel, with 12 points and nine rebounds. Tyler Jones added 11 points for the Tigers in the victo-

Belleville also defeated the John Glenn Rockets, 74-48, in a non-league match up last Tuesday, February 24.

"Our offense went well from start to fin-

ish," Krogel said. "I was a little nervous at first because we weren't covering up in transitions real well and gave them a few looks and we gave up some rebounds."

Jones led in the winning effort for Belleville with 13 points, Freeman nailed 12 and Miller put in 10.

Rob Igbawua led the team with 10 rebounds and contributed with eight points while Olden also scored eight and nabbed seven rebounds. Isaac Kindell was solid off the bench with seven points, Krogel said.

Belleville played Ypsilanti in Dearborn on Tuesday but the results were unavailable for this edition. The Tigers were victorious the first two times they met available results, as a consolation game. Ypsilanti earlier in the season. Romulus played Dearborn, also on Tuesday with no

The final game of the Mega tournament will be on Friday at Romulus High School.

1954 PA 188 Proceedings **Notice of Briarwood Estates Special Assessment Hearing** Charter Township of Van Buren Wayne County, Michigan

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE CHARTER TOWN-SHIP OF VAN BUREN, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN, OWNERS OF LAND WITHIN BRIARWOOD ESTATES SUBDIVISION AND ANY OTHER INTER-**ESTED PERSONS:**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Supervisor and Treasurer of the Township has reported to the Township Board and filed in the office of the Township Clerk for public examination a special assessment roll prepared by the Township covering all properties within the Special Assessment District for the Briarwood Estates Subdivision Street Lighting Assessment District benefited by the street lighting project. Said assessment roll has been prepared for the purpose of assessing a portion of the costs of the construction of the street lighting and work incidental thereto with the aforesaid Briarwood Estates Subdivision Street Lighting Assessment District as more particularly shown on the plans by the DTE Energy Company on file with the Township Clerk at 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, which assessment is in the total of \$2577.52 / year.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Treasurer has further reported that the assessment against each and every parcel of land within said District, Lots 1-53 inclusive, will be equal and the same for each and every lot in the Special Assessment District for the Briarwood Estates Subdivision Street Lighting District.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Township Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Van Buren Township Board Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI on March 16, 2004 for the purpose of reviewing said special assessment roll and hearing any objections thereto. Said roll may be examined at the office of the Township Clerk during regular business hours of regular business days until the time of said hearing and may further be examined at said hearing. Appearance and protest at the hearing held to confirm the special assessment roll is required in order to appeal the amount of the special assessment to the Michigan Tax Tribunal.

An owner of party in interest, or his or her agent, may appear in person at the hearing to protest the special assessment, or shall be permitted to file his or her appearance or protest by letter and his or her personal appearance shall not be required. (The owner or any person having an interest in the real property who protests in person or in writing at the hearing may file a written appeal of the special assessment with the Michigan Tax Tribunal within 30 days after the confirmation of the special assessment roll.)

*In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, accommodations can be made available with advance notice.

Joannie D. Payne Clerk

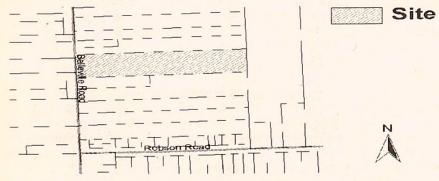
Publish: March 4, 2004 March 11, 2004

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN PLANNING COMMISSION **PUBLIC HEARING**

The Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday March 10, 2004 at 7:30 p.m., in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, Wayne County, Michigan

The Public Hearing relates to the following described property:

This is a portion of parcel with the tax ID number V-125-83-038-99-0053-000. This property is located on the east side of Belleville Road between Ecorse and Robson Roads. A map indicating the location of the subject site is included below.



The applicant is requesting special use approval. A special use approval is required to construct a church, which is permitted in the current zoning district with special use approval per Section 7.03 (f) of the Zoning Ordinance. Written comments will be accepted at the Department of Developmental Services until 5:00p.m., March 10, 2004, the hearing date.

In the spirit of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should feel free to contact the Department of Developmental Services at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting, if requesting accommoda-

Publish: March 4, 2004

Wayne prevails over Stevenson, shuts down Central

Jeff Novak Staff Writer

The Wayne Memorial Zebras had two uneventful – but important – wins last week when they beat Livonia Stevenson and Walled Lake Central.

Most recently, they defeated Central, 47-33, at home. They had a slow start and were outscored 14-10 in the first quarter but they bounced back to win the second frame 10-7. However, Central still held a 21-20 lead at halftime.

"I told the team at half time that, 'if we can keep a team to 20 or 21 points in the first half, I expect to win'," Wayne coach Wayne Woodard said. "In the second half we were able to get going with that and ran with it."

The Zebras outscored Central in the final two quarters, 13-8, in the third and 14-4 in the fourth to take the victory.

Senior guard Genois Safford led Wayne with 17 points and senior forward Brian Hearst contributed with 13. Senior Anthony Finn scored nine for Central.

Wayne took another victory last Tuesday, Feb. 24 when they deflated Livonia Stevenson, 5537. The Zebras led the entire game. They outscored the Spartans 28-20 in the first half and their defense held them to only 17 points in the entire second half. Wayne scored that many in the third quarter alone and hit for another 14 in the final eight minutes to triumph.

Senior forward Ian Bruce led Wayne with 12 points. It was the first time he has led the team in scoring, according to Woodard. Safford had another strong game with 11 for the team. Wayne had a hard time containing Kieth Hearns, who scored almost half

of the Spartans points with 17.

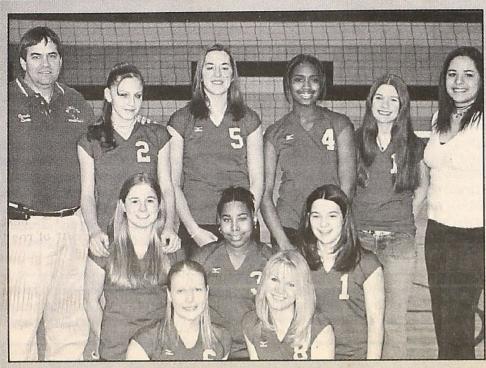
"We needed the wins to keep pace with Salem," Woodard said. "We did what we had to do to win."

They played Salem for the division championship on Tuesday but the results weren't available at press time.

Wayne lost to Salem, 69-60, early in the regular season but Woodard said that they expect to play better this time around.

"When we played them the first time we had been off for almost a month," he said before the Salem game. "We were trying to recover from a loss to Franklin and we just didn't play well. I think it will be a little better this time."

Wayne will face John Glenn for the third time this year when the teams tip off in the first round of the district tournament on Monday, March 8.



Volley victory

The Romulus Lady Eagle Volleyball team recently defeated Truman in their final match of the season. Lauren Block led the team with seven kills and Jennifer Hunter had 11 assists in the win. The team finished with an overall record of 5-7 and in fourth place in the Mega Blue division. Team members include: (front row) Rachel Broom, Lauren Block; (second row) Katie Hale, Kenise Thompson, Jennifer Hunter; (back row) head coach Rick Coate, Anica Coate, Victoria Lucaj, Kymmila Blalark, Danielle Leader (manager) and Lauren Viney (assistant coach).

CITY OF ROMULUS CHAPTER 33, ARTICLE VII

An Ordinance to amend the Subdivision Control Ordinance, Chapter 33, Article VII, Section 2.

THE CITY OF ROMULUS ORDAINS:

Section 1. SHORT TITLE: This Ordinance shall be known and cited as the amended Subdivision Control Ordinance.

Section 2. Moratorium on Residential Construction: Chapter 33, Article VII, Section 2 is hereby amended to provide for establishment of Section 2(a) which shall read as follows:

Section 2(a) The moratorium on new residential construction shall not be applicable to a parcel wherein construction of a single home to be built is to be situated on a parcel of one acre or more.

Section 4. Effective Date: This Amendment shall begin on February 9, 2004, as carried by Emergency Council Resolution 04-064 on that date pursuant to City Charter§ 7.31 (b) and shall end June 8, 2004.

Section 5. Any person with property within lands affected by this Moratorium, as delineated herein, and who opposes the application of the Moratorium, as to his or her property, shall have the right to present information and arguments and otherwise be heard before City Council

I, Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk for the City of Romulus, Michigan do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an ordinance duly adopted and accorded emergency status by Resolution 04-064 by the Romulus City Council at its regular meeting held on the 9th day of February, 2004.

Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk City of Romulus, Michigan

Alan Lambert, Mayor

Publish: March 4, 2004

To subscribe to the Journal Newspapers call 734-467-1900.



CITY OF ROMULUS NOTICE 2004 BOARD OF REVIEW

To the taxpayers of the City of Romulus: The Board of Review will meet in the Romulus City Hall, (Lower Level) Community Room, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI 48174 on the following dates and times by **APPOINTMENT ONLY** for the purpose of reviewing the assessment roll.

Meeting dates are as follows:

Residential

March 08, 2004: 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. March 09, 2004: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. & 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Commercial/Industrial

March 10, 2004: 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers are as follows:

Classification	Ratio	Multiplier
Commercial	50%	1.0000
Industrial	50%	1.0000
Residential	50%	1.0000
Developmental	50%	1.0000
Personal	50%	1.0000

Review is by appointment only

Residents and Non-Residents alike may appeal by (1) making an appointment to appear before the Board OR (2) in writing (personal appearance is not required). The Board of Review MUST receive all written appeals no later than March 10, 2004 at 2:00 p.m.

Property owners may appoint and authorize a representative to appear on their behalf. All Representatives or Agents MUST submit proof of authorization to act on behalf of the property owner as a prerequisite to appeal to the Board of Review.

To schedule an appointment, please call the City of Romulus, Department of Assessment at (734) 942-7520 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

Publish: February 19, 2004 February 26, 2004 March 4, 2004

Whalers top Ottowa, 4-2

Jeff Novak Staff Writer

The Plymouth Whalers won their second game in a row over the weekend when they put the Ottawa 67's away, 4-2, Saturday

The game was tied after two periods but the Whalers scored two goals in the third to finish the game. John Vigilante scored his 30th goal of the season to help the Whalers move ahead and Vaclay Meidl scored the final

Ottawa took the early lead, however, with a power-play goal by Mark Mancari with an assist from Corey Locke at 9:06 in the first period. Jonas Fiedler was in the box for tripping.

Ottawa's Kyle Wharton was sent to the box for interference, which allowed the Whalers to come back with a power-play goal of their own 1:21 later. Gino Pisellini put the puck past Ottawa goalie Lukas Mensator with John Mitchell and John Vigilante earning the assists.

Ottawa took the lead again at 2-1 in the second period with a goal from Locke at 5:44. Jonas Fiedler, from Mitchell and Richard Power, knotted the score back up for Plymouth to head into the third period.

The final period belonged to the Whalers. Vigilante scored his goal on a power play at 5:43. Mitchell recorded his third assist of the night on the play and Vigilante also helped. Meidl scored the final goal at 9:20 to finish the game. Brent Mahon recorded the lone assist on the

Plymouth goalie Paul Drew only faced 20 shots and stopped 18 for the win while Mensator tried to fend off 52 shots.

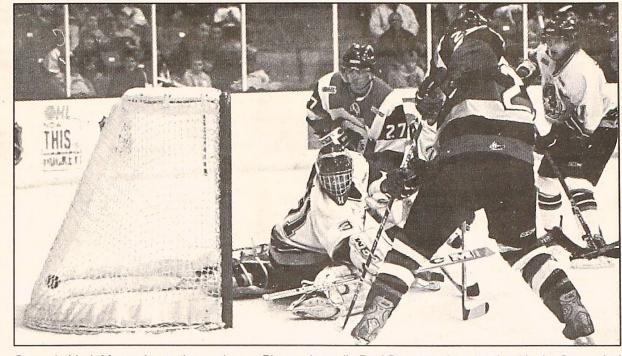
Whalers 4, Spirit 2

Plymouth defeated their interstate rivals the Saginaw Spirit, 4-2, in front of a sold out crowd at the Compuware Sports Arena on Friday night.

Ryan McGinnis led the Whalers with his first two goals of the season and his OHL career. Both goals came in the third period to overcome a 2-2 tie and notch the win.

It was the Whalers' opponent that again took the early lead. Jean-Michel Rizk scored the first goal of the game while Fiedler was in the box for interference at 2:57. Justin McCutcheon and Georgi Misharin notched the assists on the power-play goal. Sean Courtney from Misharin and Adam Sturgeon extended the Spirits' lead, 2-0, at 14:54 to end the first period of play.

Plymouth battled back in the second period with two goals to tie the game. Mahon cut into the lead first at 12:50 to make it a 2-1 game. Meidl and Fiedler contributed on the play. Vigilante knotted the score on a power play at 16:05 to close out the sec-



Ottawa's Mark Mancari puts the puck past Plymouth goalie Paul Drew to take a 1-0 lead in the first period in their meeting Saturday. The Whalers came back to win the ga

ond period of play. Ryan Ramsay and Mitchell assisted.

Whalers' goalie Ryan Nie put a stop to Saginaw and held them scoreless in the final two periods.

McGinnis scored his two goals at 7:22 and 13:20 in the third to put the game away, 4-2. Mitchell, Fiedler, Ramsay and Nick Vernelli recorded assists on the game-winning goals.

Whalers 2, Sting 4

Plymouth didn't have the same success when they dropped a game on the road to the West division leaders the Sarnia Sting on Thursday. The Whalers gave up a two-goal lead when they allowed four unanswered goals in the third period.

Joey Tenute led the final-peri-

od assault for Sarnia with a goal and two assists. Wisniewski led the Whalers with a goal and an assist. He opened up the scoring on a power play at 18:34 in the first period with an assist going to Tim Sestito.

Dan Collins added another one for Plymouth to open the second period at 2:14. Wisniewski and Ramsay assisted on the 2-0 goal.

It was downhill from there for the Whalers. Tenute started the third period with a tally at 6:46 and Danny Fritsche, Colt King and Daniel Carcillo all contributed goals in the third to overcome the Whalers, 4-2.

The loss ended a four-game win streak for the Whalers. After the weekend's events, Plymouth rests at 29-22-9-3 on the season with seven games left to play in the regular season. They are still eight points behind Sarnia in the West division.

Tomorrow night, the Whalers head to the Owen Sound and return home to the Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth on Saturday to face off against the Erie Otters.

weekend with a pair of road March 14.

CLASSIFIED

- 01. Obituaries
- 02. In Memoriam
- Cards of Thanks
- &/w Cemetery Plots
- 05. Personals 06. Legal Notices
- 07. Attorneys 08. Entertainment
- 09. Lost & Found 10. Coming Events

- 31. Help Wanted Sales

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5. Personals

Cemetery Lots

Auto Internet Sales-Someone to build & maintain auto dealership website contact: Chuck Shemwell 313-846-0040

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Miscellaneous Office Work in our Westland office, full time, Mon.-Fri., 8am-5pm. Some computer experience necessary.

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33. Child Care 34. Specialized Services

35. Situations Wanted

40. Business Opportunity

42. Pawn Shops

43. Money to Loan

32. Help Wanted

44. Music Lessons

45. Art Lessons

46. Private Instruction

47. Schools

50. Pets & Supplies

The Journal Newspapers accepting applications for Account Representatives

64. Lawn & Garden Supplies

54. Poultry - Livestock

Animal Feed

57. Antiques

59. Auctions

Equipment

58. Flea Markets

60. Misc. Sales

61. Misc. Items

62. Building Supplies

63. Business with Office &

55. Farm Equipment/Supplies

serve clients in our circulation area. Experience preferred but will train the right candidates. Must have reliable transportation. Flexible hours, full and part-time positions available.

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- 78. Aircraft

40. Business Opportunity

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46. Private Instruction

AFFORDABLE TRUMPET LESSONS, 30 years exp, retired band director Call Howard at 248-207-7020

59. Auctions

Notice Of Public Sale, pursuant to State Law, a sale will be held on March 23, 2004 on the contents of the following units,

82. Wanted to Buy

87. Room for Rent

88. Duplexes for Rent

- 93. Banquet Halls

- 97. Cottages for Rent

at 1:00 p.m.

C1-20= Lance Hawkins:

Boxes,

Bags, Box spring &

mattress, lamp, fan,

tool box

I-35= Andrea Hancock:

Boxes, furniture

G-5= Diana Smith:

Sofa, loveseat

D-21 = Janet Armstrong:

Furniture, Boxes

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Canton, MI 48167

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J & M TOWING

8964 Inkster Road

Romulus, MI 48174

(734)946-4101

March 16, 2004

@ 10:00 a.m.

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4-Door

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- 95. Garages for Rent
- 90. Condos for Rent
- 89. Apartments for Rent 92. Business Places for Rent

- 98. Mobile Homes for Rent 99. Mobile Home Lots for Rent
- 101. Wanted to Rent

100. Will Share

- 102. Storage

- 103. Business with Property
- 104. Farms with Acreage
- 105. Mobile Homes for Sale
- 106. Houses for Sale
- 107. Condos for Sale 108. Lake with Resort
- 109. Income with Property
- 110. Lots for Sale
- 111. Out of State Property
- 1984 Oldsmobile 1G3AN69Y4EX405780 4- Door

1987 Ford 1FMCA11U0HZB30512 Van 1994 Chevrolet

1G1JC1447R7158332 2 - Door 1991 Dodge

1B3XC56R9MD210587 4- Door 1992 Ford 1FAPP6047NH156292 2- Door

2002 Ford 1FAFP55242G261726 4- Door 1987 Cadillac 1G6CD5182H4230116

57. Antiques

The regular season ends next

games against the Kitchener Rangers and a rematch with the Otters. Their final game of the season falls at home against, cross-river rivals the Windsor Spitfires at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday,

> 112. Commercial Lease 113. Real Estate Wanted

- 114. Auto Accessories
- 115. Autos for Sale
- 116. Antique & Classic Cars
- 117. Trucks & Vans for Sale
- 118. Handicapped Vehicles
- 119. Auto Repairs
- 120. Motorcycles
- 121. Autos Wanted

1985 Toyota JT2AE83E8F3149512 CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC

AUCTION On MARCH 9, 2004 the Westland Police Department will conduct public auctions of impounded, abandoned vehicles. The first auction will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m. at Westland Service Towing, 37501 Cherry Hill, Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will

be offered for sale to the highest bidder: 1986 Mercury Gr Marquis 4 Door- Rust 2MEBP95F5GX629592 1991 Mazda Protégé

4- Door

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Wayne, MI - Spacious 1

ager @ 734-729-2108 or

owner @ 734-878-0859

4 Door- Blue JM1BG2245M0228601 1994 Dodge Shadow 2 Door- Blue 1B3AP24K2RN248324 1994 Pontiac Gr Prix 2 Door- Green 1G2WJ12M2RF319007

The second auction will begin promptly a 11:00 a.m. at Westland Car Care 6375 Hix Rd, Westland, MI County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder: 1994 Ford Aerostar Sta-wagon- Tan 1FMDA31U0RZA13434 1986 Chevy Astrovan Sta-wagon- Blue 1GCDM15Z6GB243071 1983 Ford LTD 4 Door- Blue 1FABP39X4DG125589 1986 V W Scirocco 2 Door- Red WVWCA0532GK028989 1996 Saturn SL2 4 Door- Green 1G8ZK527TZ339815 1992 Ford Explorer

4 Door - White 1FMDU34X3NUD44433 1992 Dodge Spirit 4 Door- White 1B3XA7631NF217018 1995 Ford Bronco Sta-wagon- Black 1FMEU15HXSLA18887 1977 Buick 2 Door- Gold 4X37K7H504321 1989 Toyota Celica 2 Door- Red JT2ST67C3K7356528 1990 GMC S1500 Sta-wagon-Brown 1GKCT18Z6L8512174 2001 Mercury Sable 4 Door- White 1MEFM50U41G618654

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. Bidding on all vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction 30 DAY NOTICE OF AUCTION

1988 Plymouth Sundance 2 Door- White

3P3XP6439NT324883

Due to unknown ownership, 30 day notice is herby given that the vehicle(s) listed below Will be auctioned after April 3, 2004 unless it is

claimed by the owner prior to that time: 1996 Boat W/ Trailer- White

87. Rooms For Rent

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BELLEVILLE furnished, utilities and refrigerator included \$70 week 734-699-3232

ROOM FOR rent, Wayne, \$82/weekly, all utilities included. Call 734-721-

88. Duplexes For Rent

3BRM \$675.00 MO. TOTAL MOVE-IN\$1,000. WILDWOOD&PALMER AREA

2225 DELTON COURT CALL (734)522-1512 TENANT PAYS ALL UTILITIES

Norwayne-Duplex for Rent-2028 Elsworth/Wildwood & Palmer Area.\$535MO,Total \$1,000.Moves you in. (734) 522-1512

61. Misc. Items

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WESTLAND-NORWAYNE

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96. Houses For Rent

326-2770

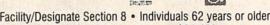
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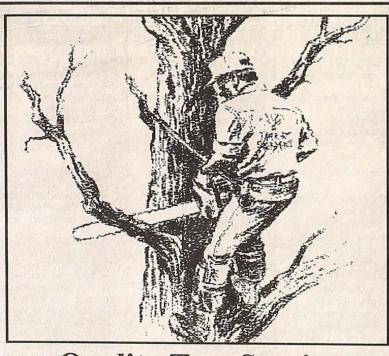
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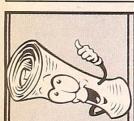
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118. Freebies

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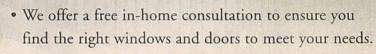
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